

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO HQS US CUSTOMS WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2136

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 0963

FOR ALLSHOUSE, INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR YO

SUBJ: CCINC CUSTOMS TRAINING

REF: STATE 24038

1. ON MARCH 3, AFTER REPEATED PRODDING BY EMBASSY, YUGOSLAV
CUSTOMS FINALLY CAME UP WITH FOLLOWING PROPOSAL FOR CCINC
CUSTOMS TRAINING SEMINAR:

QUOTE:

1. IDENTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS OF REGULATIONS IN THE
COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES: A. POWERS OF
CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES AND METHODS OF CONTROL ON FRONTIER; B.
METHODS OF CONTROL FROM FRONTIER TO IMPORTER; C. POWERS OF
CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES AND WORKING METHODS AT TIME OF DETECTION
OF VIOLATIONS OF CUSTOMS REGULATIONS;

2. ORGANIZATION, POWERS AND WORKING METHODS OF US CUSTOMS
SERVICE IN DETECTION OF VIOLATIONS OF CUSTOMS REGULATIONS;

3. LATEST FORMS IN ILLICIT TRAFFIC WITH NARCOTIC DRUGS, LATEST
MEANS AND METHODS OF DETECTION. END QUOTE.

2. YUGOSLAVS EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS ONLY TENTATIVE PROPOSAL
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WHICH GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE TO THEIR SERVICE. IT WOULD BE

SUBJECT TO REFINEMENT AND FINAL APPROVAL AFTER US CUSTOMS RESPONDS. THEY ENVISAGE SEMINAR LASTING FIVE WORK DAYS AND PROBABLY TAKING PLACE IN BELGRADE. THEY ARE STILL CONSIDERING CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS CONTACTS PROPOSED PARA 3 REFTEL BUT INDICATED THAT IN GENERAL THEY FORESEE NO DIFFICULTY IN ARRANGING PROGRAM.

3. YUGOSLAVS EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBTS, HOWEVER, AS TO ACCEPTABILITY OF HOLDING SEMINAR IN JUNE, AS THAT IS BEGINNING OF TOURIST SEASON WHEN DETAILING OF 20-30 OFFICERS TO TRAINING SEMINAR WOULD SERIOUSLY DISRUPT NORMAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS. THEY EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR EARLIER DATE--MAY OR EVEN APRIL BUT DID NOT FINALLY RULE OUT JUNE, HOWEVER. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT REFTEL STATED THAT JUNE IS ONLY TIME WHICH HAS NOT BEEN COMMITTED IN FIVE-MONTH INTERIM SINCE US CUSTOMS MADE FIRST OFFER. BUT, ON OFF CHANCE THAT EARLIER DATE MAY HAVE OPENED UP IN MEANTIME, HE AGREED TO EXPLORE QUESTION OF TIMING WITH WASHINGTON.

4. WHILE EMBASSY HOPES MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PROGRAM AND TIMING FOR SEMINAR CAN STILL BE WORKED OUT, YUGOSLAV ACTION IN DELAYING RESPONSE FOR MONTHS AND NOW TO TABLE SKETCHY PROPOSAL, CONDITIONALLY APPROVE SEMINAR AND ASK FOR TIMING AT THEIR CONVENIENCE MAY INDICATE LACK OF INTEREST. PLEASE ADVISE YOUR THOUGHTS ON PROPOSAL AND TIME SOONEST.
TOON

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